

**Governor's P-20 Council  
Access to Higher Education Committee Meeting  
Friday, November 18, 2005  
1:00 p.m.  
Minutes Minutes**

**P-20 Council Members Present:** Dr. John Haeger, Dr. Peter Likins, Dr. Michael Crowe, Mark Bryce, Dr. Jim Zaharis, Greg Donovan, Lynda French, Susan Carlson, Dr. Rufus Glasper,

**Others:** Dr. Don Isaacson, Dr. April Osborn, Purd Thomas, Harry Garewal, Karen Glennon, Jim Rounds, Rick Merrick,

**Staff:** Debra Raeder, Darcy Renfro, Becky Hill

Darcy Renfro called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. and welcomed everyone. Darcy introduced Karen Glennon to provide a summary of the report she has been commissioned to provide to the University of Phoenix on four-year baccalaureates being offered by community colleges.

Karen indicated that her report focused on the nine states that currently have community colleges offering baccalaureate degrees. What she has discovered in her research is that in these nine states, community college baccalaureate degrees are extremely limited with only a total of 16 community colleges offering this type of program. Additionally, not all programs being touted as community college baccalaureate degree programs are really community colleges – for example, some are state colleges. The degrees are being offered in limited areas such as nursing, teaching, and technology. Karen indicated that, simply put, this is not a widespread trend nor apparently an emerging trend.

Karen further reported that there has been little data accumulated regarding these programs. Florida has conducted its first evaluation of their program; Texas and Washington have a process for collecting data but the programs are too new for an evaluation. The initial report from Florida, however, is that the cost of community colleges baccalaureates is higher than colleges and universities. Reasons cited include high startup cost, low initial student participation, and possibly capital cost.

The “Glennon” Report, when completed, will also address other ways to meet the need for baccalaureate degrees in Arizona including on-line distance learning; articulation agreement; 2+2/3+1 programs; the private post secondary sector; as well as a state college. Additionally, the report will describe processes used in other states for approving community college baccalaureate degrees which include: conducting a needs survey; submitting a resolution from the Board of Supervisors; describing the process for implementing the program; a taskforce analysis; determination of workforce needs; contact with public/private institutions for right of refusal; providing academic content and curriculum.

Approved January 24, 2006 as amended.

Karen indicated her report would be finalized in late November or early December, 2005. The presentation was followed by a brief question and answer period which centered on clarification of the data that has been reviewed. *Mark Byrce questioned extensively the methodology and conclusions of the Glennon Report.*

Jim Rounds, Vice President and Senior Economist for Elliott D. Pollack & Company, provided the Committee with a brief overview of a study being done regarding four-year baccalaureates and community colleges. Pollack & Company initially was hired by the University of Phoenix to look at whether four-year baccalaureates at community colleges would result in a higher cost to the state. The study, however, has evolved into researching two areas.

First, the study will address general issues relating to community college baccalaureate degrees. They will not, however, be doing a fiscal note of a specific proposal. Second, case studies will be conducted to ascertain whether it would be beneficial for community colleges to offer baccalaureate degrees in nursing and teaching.

Also addressed in the review will be whether four year baccalaureates at community colleges are an efficient way to improve accessibility; whether other initiatives may be more effective (e.g. 2+2, 3+1, etc.), and is it more cost effective for universities to be on community college campus.

The beginning stages of this study will be to review available information and to conduct interviews with the three state universities, two or three community colleges in the Maricopa metropolitan area (specifically Mesa and Scottsdale), as well as some community colleges in rural areas of the state. Mr. Rounds solicited input from the Committee on what reports are available; who should be interviewed; any committee members who would like to provide input; as well as any other information that could be pertinent to the study.

The presentation was followed by a brief question and answer period. Concerns were expressed that issues be covered such as how to measure the benefits to the state vs. the benefits to the counties; differentiating student demand from workforce demand; as well as the access issues. The Report is expected to be ready by December 2005 or January 2006.

With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.